

receiving the UHDM and swapping the first puncturing code pattern for the second puncturing code pattern at a prescribed time according to the UHDM at the mobile terminal.

30. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the swap action time field comprises a first predetermined number of bits to define a second predetermined number of puncturing code pattern changing times, and wherein a puncturing code pattern changing time defined in the time field is defined in a system time unit.

31. (New) The method of claim 30, wherein the first predetermined number is 6 and the second predetermined number is 64.

32. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein the second puncturing code pattern is complementary to the first puncturing code pattern.

33. (New) The method of claim 29, further comprising:
sending the action time defined in the time field of the UHDM from at least one base station.

34. (New) The method of claim 29, wherein at least one of the first puncturing code pattern and the second puncturing code pattern determines a type of encoder.

35. (New) A Universal Handoff Direction Message for a code combining soft handoff, comprising:

an action time field for indicating an action time to change a first puncturing pattern into a second puncturing pattern for an encoder.

36. (New) The Message of claim 35, wherein the action time field comprises a first predetermined number of bits to define a second predetermined number of puncturing code pattern changing times, and wherein a puncturing code pattern changing time defined in the time field is defined in a system time unit.

37. (New) The Message of claim 36, wherein the first predetermined number is 6 and the second predetermined number is 64.

38. (New) The Message of claim 35, wherein the second puncturing code pattern is complementary to the first puncturing code pattern.

39. (New) The Message of claim 35, wherein at least one of the first puncturing code pattern and the second puncturing code pattern determines a type of encoder.

40. (New) A method for transmitting a Universal Handoff Direction Message as recited in claim 35, said method including:

A1 transmitting said Message from a base station to a mobile station when the base station is going to swap the first puncturing pattern for the second puncturing pattern.

41. (New) A method for handing off a call between cells in a mobile communications system, comprising:

receiving signals from two cells;

determining whether strengths of the signals exceed a predetermined value;

if the strengths of the signals exceed the predetermined value, detecting code patterns of base stations which transmitted the signals;

if the code patterns are same, changing one of the code patterns to be different from the other code pattern.

42. (New) The method of claim 41, wherein said changing step is performed based on time information included in a UHDM message transmitted from one of the base stations to a mobile terminal engaged in the call.

A 43. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the time information is expressed as a predetermined number of bits in the UHDM message.

44. (New) The method of claim 43, wherein the predetermined number is 6.

45. (New) The method of claim 42, wherein the time information is applied based on swap information in the UHDM message.

46. (New) The method of claim 41, further comprising:
receiving a signal from a third cell;
determining a code pattern of a base station which transmitted the signal
from the third cell; and

disregarding the signal from the third cell, wherein said other code pattern corresponds to the code pattern of the base station which transmitted the signal from the third cell.

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47. (New) The method of claim 46, further comprising:

detecting that the signal from the third cell is below a predetermined value,
said disregarding step being performed after said detecting step.
